

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Appeal Brief filed April 13, 2007. Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-15 are pending. Claims 2, 12, and 16-22 are cancelled. Prosecution is hereby reopened.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 13-16 of the Appeal Brief, filed April 13, 2007, with respect to claims 1, 3-11 and 13-15 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 35 USC 103(a) rejection of claims 1, 3-11 and 13-15 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-15 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Referring to claim 1, Le discloses databases containing data related to a plurality of shipping transactions, with the data organized into records associated with each shipping transaction of said plurality of shipping transactions, database servers hosting said database; an application server in communication with said database servers for providing a user interface to any of a plurality of clients, each client associated with a member of a supply chain for a particular shipping transaction of said plurality of shipping transactions.

Referring to claim 1, O'Donnell discloses a plurality of shipping transactions, each of which relate to a transfer of goods, between at least two jurisdictions; records that include data required to process a plurality of steps of each shipping transaction associated with each record; and including data required to process a step of exporting of a product from a first jurisdiction and data required to process a step of importing of said product to a second jurisdiction.

Referring to claim 1, Zachariassen discloses an interface for allowing at least one client to modify a portion of a record associated with a particular shipping transaction if a member of a supply chain associated with said client has security authorization to modify said portion.

Referring to claim 1, Pool (US 6,460,020) discloses an international transaction system for calculations of transaction charges such as shipping charges and import/export duties (Abstract).

Neither, Le taken either alone or in obvious combination discloses all of the claimed subject matter, namely: *An integrated import/export system comprising: a database containing data related to a plurality of shipping transactions, each shipping transaction of said plurality of shipping transactions relating to a transfer of goods, between at least two jurisdictions, with the data organized into records associated with each shipping transaction of said plurality of shipping transactions, where each record includes a primary key, where said primary key uniquely identifies said shipping transaction associated with said record, where each record also includes data required*

to process a plurality of steps of said shipping transaction associated with said record including data required to process a step of exporting of a product from a first jurisdiction and data required to process a step of importing of said product to a second jurisdiction; a database server hosting said database; and an application server in communication with said database server for providing a user interface to any of a plurality of clients, each client associated with a member of a supply chain for a particular shipping transaction of said plurality of shipping transactions, said interface allowing said at least one client to modify [at least] a portion of a record associated with said particular shipping transaction if said member associated with said client has security authorization to modify said portion.

Also, there is no motivation to combine O'Donnell, Zachariassen, Pool or any of the prior art of record to meet these limitations. It is for these reasons that applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Claims 8 and 13-15 are also allowable for the same reasons stated with respect to claim 1 above.

Claims 3-7 and 9-11 depend from claims 1 and 8 respectively and are therefore also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl M Shechtman who can be reached on (571) 272-4018. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Cheryl M Shechtman/

Examiner, Art Unit 2163

June 3, 2008

/don wong/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2163